



Holiday homes
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The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

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CAC moves to Channel 97

The Commander's Access Channel, aired over the local cable television system has been moved from Channel 36 to Channel 97.

The CAC is available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week and on it you will find information on current events and activities occurring on the installation.

Under the new contract with COX Cablevision, the CAC is now available for viewing on Channel 97 on Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista and some Cochise County areas just outside Sierra Vista's city limits.

Main Gate closed

The Fort Huachuca Main Gate will be closed Saturday, 9:40-10:40 a.m. in support of the Sierra Vista Annual Christmas Parade.

Also in support of the parade, the Wilcox Gate will close at the normal time of 10 p.m. on Friday and will not reopen until 10:40 a.m. on Saturday.

Buffalo Soldier Trail and Fry Boulevard will be closed to all vehicular traffic until noon; plan accordingly.

Green to Gold briefing

Interested in becoming an officer? Attend the next "Green to Gold" briefing on Friday, 11 a.m.-noon at the Post Education Center, Building 52104.

RV storage lot

All military members, retired or active duty, who currently have a vehicle in the RV Storage Lot, near MWR Rents, must update their information with Vehicle Registration in the Military Police Station.

Those who do not update their information will lose their reserved space in the RV lot.

Flu vaccine provided based on high risk need

1st Lt. Ronna L. Winn, R.D.
MEDDAC PAO

The Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center expects to receive a limited supply of influenza immunizations in early December and will begin Phase I of the flu vaccine program.

Due to the nationwide delay and short supply, the Department of Defense Health Affairs has issued guidelines for giving the vaccine based on the highest risk populations in the community.

No flu shots will be provided without obtaining an appointment through the Flu Hotline during Phase I of the influenza vaccination program. Beneficiaries, regardless of age, must meet one of the following criteria to receive an appointment for the vaccination during Phase I:

- Children or adolescents on long term aspirin therapy.
- Pregnant women in their second or third trimesters between 11/1/00 and 5/1/00 or a high risk pregnancy as determined by their obstetrician.
- Children or adults with pulmonary and or cardiovascular illnesses, including asthma
- Metabolic disorders, including diabetes that requires insulin
- Children and adults with chronic disease (examples include cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, strokes with resulting disability, HIV+, kidney disease, liver disease, cystic fibrosis.
- Treatments and medications that could compromise immunity (Chemotherapy, prescribed steroids, three or more system specific medications, and related hospitalizations within the past six months.

The highest risk population will be



MEDDAC photo

Sylvia Rubin, medical clerk for Internal Medicine clinic, receives the influenza vaccination from Leona Smith, chief Army Community Health nurse at RWBAHC. Health care personnel of MEDDAC and DENTAC are among the first vaccinated due to their recurrent contact with the influenza virus.

immunized in Phase I of this program. In accordance with this guidance and in an effort to serve our beneficiaries in a timely and efficient manner, RWBAHC officials implemented the Flu Hotline on Monday.

Beneficiaries can call 533-5127 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and speak with a nurse to determine if they meet the high risk population criteria of Phase I. Patients who meet this criteria will have an appointment made for them.

The flu immunizations will be provided only with a prescription beginning in early December. Due to the limited supply and expected demand, patients will not necessarily be offered a choice of appointment time.

A second shipment of the flu vaccine is expected during the holiday season and this shipment will support Phase II of the influenza immunization program. Phase II will vaccinate AIT students and faculty, followed by a continuation of Phase I criteria participants if the supply allows.

Phase III of the vaccination will include remaining beneficiaries who did not meet the high risk criteria of Phase I nor the criteria of Phase II. Phase III will serve all remaining active duty members, followed by TRICARE Prime enrollees and then all remaining beneficiaries. The arrival of additional vaccines will be published in *The Scout*, radio and throughout post.

Commissary's produce baskets are morale builders

By Stan Williamson
Scout Staff

What does it cost to bring a little joy into the life of someone you know? One hundred dollars, \$50? How about \$7 to \$10 dollars?

That's the price of the holiday fruit or food baskets from the Fort Huachuca Commissary's Produce Department.

"We can have a fruit or food basket ready for pickup within 24-hours," said Araceli "Sally" Mandy, a DeCA employee with the local commissary.

She said a \$7 basket provides enough fruit or food for

three people. A \$10 basket can provide for four or five people.

According to Mandy, the baskets have been used for all sorts of purposes.

"People have ordered them for hail and farewell parties, birthdays, promotions, anniversaries and a lot of other events," she said.

"I think they really help to build morale among workforce, and I like to think that I'm like a morale officer for the fort."

If you are interested in "building morale" in your office or work place, call 533-5540 and place your order today.

The Scout’s Chaplain

Chaplain’s sponsor tree lighting

By Stan Williamson
Scout Staff

The annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Concert, sponsored by the Installation Staff Chaplain’s Office starts at 6 p.m., Dec. 7, at the Main Post Chapel. The tree lighting ceremony will be on the chapel’s front lawn at 6 p.m., and the 45-minute concert begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel Sanctuary.

Children may visit with Santa in the chapel’s entry-way during the concert.

Leading off this year’s Tree Lighting Ceremony at 5:45 p.m. will be a special holiday musical program by an ensemble from the 36th Army Band, Regimental Band of the Military Intelligence Corps. These selections will include some traditional sing-a-long carols.

Following the Tree Lighting Ceremony, the ensemble will lead the audience inside the Chapel where the entire 36th Army band will present its Holiday Concert of various holiday themes, both sacred and secular.

The tree lighting ceremony and holiday concert are two separate events held back-to-back as a festive introduction to the holiday season for the Fort Huachuca community.

Parking for the evening program will be available behind the Main Post Chapel and in the parking lot between the chapel and the AAFES Garden Shop and Furniture Store.

Military Police will be on hand for traffic control and to assist with parking of vehicles.

MI Professional Bulletin is valuable resource on Army intelligence

By Chris Hurd
Librarian

The publication, *MI Magazine*, now called *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*, is a valuable source of information on the recent development of Army intelligence.

All issues of this periodical are available at the Fort Huachuca Library.

MI Magazine began with the April/May/June 1974 issue. Inside the front cover was a message to “men and women in MI” from Brig. Gen. Hiestand, Commander, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School.

Hiestand stated, “*MI Magazine* ...was developed to insure an informal but highly productive media for contact with the field, and as a forum for exchanging ideas of interest to all military intelligence personnel.”

As is the case with many periodicals, *MI Magazine* has undergone several name changes. Beginning with the Jan-Mar 1977 issue, the title changed to *Military Intelligence*.

In the March 1987 issue, the nomenclature ‘PB 34 (TEST)’ was added to the title page. As the first page of this issue explains, the magazine “incorporates all TRADOC-directed changes.” The “(TEST)” part of the nomenclature ceased to be a part of the title page beginning with the January-March 1989 issue.

The present name, *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*, first appeared on the cover of the January-March 1994 issue. For most of its history, the magazine has been published quarterly.

How can I find information from back

See Library, Page 8

Kudos Korner

Soldier thankful for support

Recently, my wife, Sgt. 1st Class Jane Lujan, was diagnosed with parasagittal meningioma (brain tumor). She, of course, had to have surgery immediately to remove this nuisance.

From the moment we received the diagnosis from the local doctors here in Sierra Vista, the support from all of the Army Signal Command family, and our friends from the Military Intelligence side of Post, and as well from the staff and secretaries from Raymond W. Bliss has been phenomenal.

There are just too many names to mention, and please if I don’t mention your name that doesn’t mean that your support meant nothing to us; as a matter of fact, everyone’s thoughts, prayers and support meant a great deal. Just knowing that everything that we do for others comes to light when tragedy hits home.

A very special thanks to: the command and staff of Headquarters Army Signal Command; the soldiers, NCOs and officers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, ASC; Chap. (Maj.) Dennis Nitchke, Sgt. 1st Class Darryl Heisey, Sgt. Maj. Scarlett Williams and

Sgt. 1st Class Martin Mayhew for being there throughout the entire surgery procedure.

To my company commander, Capt. Sherry A. Edikauskas for allowing me to miss some time from work to be with my wife before, during, and after the surgery. To the soldiers and civilian work force in the G-1, G-2, G-3, and G-4 Sections, my heart goes out to each and every one of you.

To Susan, Guy, Tom, Lenay, Marta, Marsha, Al, Roxanne, and Diane — again, a very special thanks. To a former soldier, Caroline Browden (Intensive Care Unit Nurse), University Medical Center — thank you for being so ever caring and understanding during our most trying time. God bless you. This is an example of a soldier taking care of a soldier.

To the two surgeons (Doctors Miguel Melgar, and Christopher Pham) what a great job these two did. Their performance is unmatched.

I cannot begin to thank everyone enough, but we offer this thought: “What you do today will come back tenfold”. May God bless everyone for your support and prayers during our most scary moment.

Again, should I miss anyone out there please accept my apologies, but know that deep in our hearts we are very thankful and appreciative. Thank you too, for all the flowers and “Get Well” cards.

1st Sgt. Dan Lujan and family
HHC, ASC

MEDDAC honors NCO of Month

MEDDAC recognizes Sgt. Stacey Wrin as its November Noncommissioned Officer of the Month.

Wrin is currently working at the Consolidated Soldier Care Clinic as a

91B or medic and has been part of MEDDAC since her permanent change of station move here from Fort Irwin where she was an EMT instructor, combat lifesaver and company training NCO.

Prior to that she was one of the first females in Task Force XXI, earning two

ARCOMs and two AAMs. Wrin plans to reenlist and hopes to become a drill sergeant in the future. MEDDAC congratulates her on her accomplishments and commends her commitment to her unit and the U.S. Army.

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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DoD winning war against drugs in military

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The incidence of service members using illegal drugs is at a 20-year low, evidence that DoD is winning the war against drug abuse in its ranks — a conflict that began during the Vietnam War.

Ana Maria Salazar, deputy assistant secretary of defense for drug enforcement policy and support, noted that drug use by DoD personnel is down 90 percent compared to two decades ago. Just 2.6 percent of all service members reported drug use within the 30 days preceding their response to a 1998 survey, she said. More than 27 percent of respondents in a 1980 survey said they used illegal drugs in the preceding 30 days, she noted.

“Overall, the use of illegal drugs by service members is down. Drug use has decreased every year since we started monitoring it in 1980,” Salazar said.

She pointed to the effectiveness of DoD’s “zero tolerance” policy toward drug use, pre-employment and random drug testing, and substance abuse education programs. She also cited DoD’s participation in such drug awareness information campaigns as national Red Ribbon Week — Oct. 23-31 this year.

“Drug use is incompatible with military service. Not tolerating drug use is the cornerstone of our deterrence program,” she said. “Our system identifies users and ensures that they are punished. This approach deters drug use by other service members and promotes readiness.”

Salazar noted that drug use “has always been a national security concern” that affects both the Defense Department and civilian society. According to the Office of National Drug Control Policy, illegal drugs cost the national economy \$110 billion in expenses and lost revenue in 1995, she said.

“Drug use by service members threatens their readiness to defend our nation,” she said. “Drug use by society in general damages our ability as a nation to have a strong economy with citizens who are focused on healthy

lifestyles. This, in itself, threatens security.”

Almost a third of service members weren’t living drug-free lifestyles 20 years ago, but drug use had become a problem for the U.S. military much earlier, Salazar said. In 1970, increasing numbers of service members in Vietnam were found to be using heroin and other illegal drugs. This prompted President Nixon in 1971 to direct the secretary of defense to initiate a program of drug prevention, identification of abusers and treatment.

Throughout “the post-Vietnam era” of the 1970s and early 1980s, many young Americans — military and civilian — experimented with illegal drugs like marijuana, LSD and cocaine. DoD had been conducting drug tests on service members since 1971, in large part to identify and treat heroin addicts who’d picked up the habit in Southeast Asia, Salazar said.

Ten years later, service members were found to be using more and different types of illegal drugs. Drug use in the military was prevalent, with the 1980 military survey identifying disturbing drug abuse problems among both enlisted members and junior officers, Salazar said.

“At that time, units with as much as one-third of their members using drugs were unprepared for combat,” she said.

The tripwire was an explosion aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz on May 26, 1981. The ship suffered 14 people dead, 48 injured and \$150 million in property losses, including seven aircraft destroyed and 11 damaged. DoD adopted its “zero tolerance” drug policy in 1982 after investigators indicated Nimitz crewmen’s drug use possibly contributed to the disaster.

“Drug users are more prone to have accidents, to use poor judgment and more likely to injure themselves and others ... the disaster aboard the Nimitz is a grim reminder of this fact,” Salazar said. “As a group, drug users have demonstrated that they do not maintain the unit morale necessary to carry out the dangerous duties we demand of military personnel.”

As part of its drug deterrence efforts, “DoD must encourage its members to become active in drug education and community support,” Salazar said. Each of the services manages programs that distribute information on the dangers of drug use, she said.

“Among the most effective educational tools are local community programs that focus on children and families,” she added. The annual Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award, for example, recognizes outstanding service-level drug awareness programs. Many of these programs, Salazar said, feature service members interacting with military and civilian communities as educators and youth role models.

DoD officials are also alert for any new patterns in youth drug use, such as the illegal “designer drug” Ecstasy. Service members’ use of Ecstasy, although small, increased from a prevalence of 0.004 percent in fiscal 1998 to 0.019 in 1999, Salazar said.

“Civilian police agencies tell us that in 1999 elements of organized crime dramatically increased the amount of Ecstasy sold on the streets,” she said. “Large numbers of young people across the nation began to use this dangerous drug, which can cause brain damage, and some of them died as a result.”

DoD anticipated that Ecstasy might be an emerging drug and mandated testing in 1997, said Salazar, noting that “through testing we’ve deterred many young people from using the drug.” This year, she added, DoD plans to use a more sensitive drug test that will identify more Ecstasy users.

She credits DoD’s drug urinalysis program as being “one of our most effective programs” in fighting the war against drugs in the ranks.

“When any drug users are identified, appropriate punitive action is taken, depending on the program, and can range from mandatory rehabilitation to courts-martial,” she said. “The numbers speak for themselves in measuring the effectiveness of this program.”

Manage stress this holiday season for relaxed New Year

TRICARE release

With all that takes place during the holiday season the potential for being “stressed out” is high.

If not dealt with, stress can cause disorder to the body and mind with symptoms such as a persistent sad or anxious mood; loss of interest or pleasure in activities; persistent physical symptoms that do not respond to treatment (headaches, chronic pain, constipation); excessive disappointment or anger in minor problems; and feel-

ings of guilt, hopelessness or worthlessness.

Don’t let a wonderful time of year get you frazzled. Instead, learn to manage your stress.

By following some or all of the following methods, you will be able to effectively manage and reduce the stress in your life, making time spent with family and friends more enjoyable and rewarding.

— Take care of yourself. Eat and drink in moderation. Don’t abandon your healthy

habits. Before attending social events, set a limit to what types of things you will eat and drink, as well as the portions.

— Manage your time. Plan ahead by developing a calendar of certain days to shop, bake, and visit. Don’t plan more than what you think you can handle. Make certain to schedule time for yourself and for exercise.

— Be realistic. Don’t set your expectations too high. As families change, traditions may have to change as well. Set a

budget before you go shopping.

Decide how much money you can spend and stick with that amount.

— Share your feelings. Don’t try to cope alone. Spend time with people you like. Talk with your family, friends and your doctor.

Stay focused on the positive things you have in your life this holiday season. If symptoms of stress interfere with your daily routine, contact your primary care manager.

Army offers free online technical courses for computer-based training

By **Joe Burlas**
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Active-duty and reserve soldiers, and Department of Army civilians can continue to take free online information technology courses thanks to a recently renewed contract between the Army and SmartForce, a commercial computer-based training company.

Since the Army first started offering the service in 1998, the course catalog has grown to offer training on more than 1,100 technical subjects.

“Rather than send people away from their

jobs to half a dozen places for training, why not save time and money by having them sign up for online courses,” said Lt. Col. Tom Loper, the program’s project manager.

“We opted to offer this education to both the civilian and soldier workforce. In an increasingly technology-based Army, these classes not only make students smarter at their jobs but give them more marketable skills for future jobs — inside or out of the military.”

The program is offered on the web at www.armycbt.army.mil. The classes range from how to use word-processor, database

and spreadsheet programs for beginner through advanced users to 70 certification-preparation courses for systems administrators and computer programmers.

While all the classes are free for registered users, the program does not offer actual certifications. Arrangements for certification testing and associated testing fees - often costing several hundred dollars — must be made through commercial vendors. Links to those vendors are posted on the Army CBT web page.

Additionally, many of the offered courses may qualify for college credit. Loper recom-

mended those interested in getting college credit for SmartForce classes check with their local Army Education Services office to determine which qualify and what costs may be involved through a college or university.

Currently, the instruction is primarily text-based with some graphics and photos. SmartForce plans to offer streaming video for instructor lectures in the future when available bandwidth is large enough, Loper said. Online mentoring service is also offered on a limited basis.

To date, 70,000-plus registered Army users have used the SmartForce instruction.

Native American Heritage Month

Lakota legend of flute used to teach, explain, entertain

In recognition of Native American Indian Heritage Month, *The Fort Huachuca Scout* would like to share this traditional Lakota story with its readers. This story has been passed down and used to teach lessons, explain the past and entertain.

*By Dustyn Medicine Wolf
Lakota Indian*

Well, you know our flutes, you've heard their sounds and seen how beautifully they are made. That flute of ours, the sivotanka, is for only one kind of music, love music.

In the old days the men would sit by themselves, maybe lean hidden, unseen, against a tree in the dark of night. They would make up their own special tunes, their courting song. We Indians are shy.

Even if he was a warrior who had already counted coup on an enemy, a young man might hardly muster up enough courage to talk to a nice-looking winchinchala, a girl he was in love with. Also, there was no place where a young man and a girl could be alone inside the village.

The family tipi was always crowded with people. And naturally, you couldn't just walk out of the village hand in hand with your girl, even if handholding had been one of our customs, which it wasn't.

Out there in the tall grass and sagebrush, you could be gored by a buffalo, clawed by a grizzly, tomahawked by a Pawnee, or run into the Mila Hanska, the Long Knives, namely the U.S. Cavalry.

The only chance you had to meet your winchinchala was to wait for her at daybreak when the women went to the river or brook with their skin bags to get water. When that girl you had your eyes on finally came down to the water trail, you popped up from behind some bush and stood so she could see you. And that was about all you could do to show her that you were interested, standing there grinning, looking at your moccasins, scratching your ear, maybe.

The winchinchala didn't do much either, except get red in the face, giggle, maybe throw a wild turnip at you. If she liked you, the only way she would let you know was to take her time and peek at you a few times over her shoulder. So the flutes did all the talking.

At night, lying on her buffalo robe in her parents tipi, the girl would hear that moaning, crying sound of the siyotanka. By the way it was played, she would know that it was her lover who was out there someplace. And if the Elk Medicine was very strong in him and her, maybe she would sneak out to follow that sound and meet him without anybody noticing.

The flute is always made of cedar wood. In the shape, it describes the long

neck and head of a bird with a open beak. The sound comes out of the beak, and that's where the legend comes in, the legend of how the Lakota people acquired the flute.

Once many generations ago, the people had drums, gourd rattles, and bull roarers, but no flutes. At that long-ago time, a young man went out to hunt. Meat was scarce, and the people in his camp were hungry. He found the traces of an elk and followed them for a long time. The elk, wise and swift, is the one who owns the love charm. If a man possesses Elk Medicine, the girl he likes can't help sleeping with him.

This young man I'm talking about had on Elk Medicine. After many hours, he finally sighted his game. He was skilled with bow and arrows, and had a fine new bow and quiver full of arrows. Yet the elk always managed to stay just out of range, leading him on and on.

The young man was so intent on following his prey that he hardly noticed where he went. When night came, he found himself deep inside a thick forest. The tracks had disappeared and so had the elk, and there was no moon. He realized that he was lost and that it was too dark to find his way out. Luckily, he came upon a stream with cool, clear water. And he had been careful enough to bring a hide bag of wasna, dried meat pounded with berries and kidney fat, strong food that will keep a man going for a few days.

After he had drunk and eaten, he rolled himself into his fur robe, propped his back against a tree, and tried to rest. But he couldn't sleep, the forest was full of strange noises; the cries of night animals, the hooting owls, and the groaning of trees in the wind. It was as if he heard these sounds for the first time.

Suddenly there was an entirely new sound, of a kind that neither he nor anyone else had ever heard before. It was mournful and ghost like. It made him afraid, so that he drew his robe tightly about himself and reached for his bow to make sure that it was properly strung.

On the other hand the sound was like a song, sad but beautiful, full of love, hope, and yearning. Then before he knew it, he was asleep.

He dreamed that the bird called wagnuka, the redheaded woodpecker, appeared singing the strangely beautiful song and telling him, "Follow me and I will teach you." When the hunter awoke, the

sun was already high. On a branch of the tree against which he was leaning, he saw a redheaded woodpecker.

The bird flew away to another tree, and another, but never very far, looking back all the time at the young man as if to say, "Come on!" Then once more he heard that wonderful song, and his heart yearned to find the singer. Flying toward the sound, leading the hunter, the bird flitted through the leaves, while its bright red top made it easy to follow. At last it lighted on a cedar tree and began hammering on a branch, making a noise like the fast beating of a small drum.

Suddenly there was a gust of wind, and again the hunter heard the beautiful sound right above him. Then he discovered that the song came from the dead branch that the woodpecker was tapping his beak on. He realized also that it was the wind that made the sound as it whistled through the hole the bird had drilled. "Kola, friend," said the hunter, "let me take this branch home. You can make yourself another." He took the branch, a hollow piece of wood filled with woodpecker holes that was about the length of his forearm.

He walked back to the village bringing no meat, but happy all the same. In his tipi the young man tried to make the branch sing for him. He blew on it, he waved it around, but no sound came. It made him sad, he wanted so much to hear that wonderful new sound.

He purified himself in the sweat lodge and climbed to the top of a lonely hill. There, resting with his back against a large rock, he fasted, going without food or water for four days and nights, crying for a vision which would tell him how to make the branch sing.

In the middle of the fourth night, wagnuka, the bird with the bright red top, appeared saying, "Watch me," turning himself into a man, showing the hunter how to make the branch sing, saying again and again, "Watch this, now." And in his dream the young man watched and observed very carefully.

When he awoke, he found a cedar tree. He broke off a branch, and working many hours, hollowed it out with a bowstring drill, just as he had seen the woodpecker do in his dream.

He whittled the branch into the shape of a bird with a long neck and an open beak. He painted the top of the bird's head with washasha', the sacred red color. He prayed. He smoked the branch up with incense of burning sage, cedar, and sweet grass. He fingered the holes as he had seen the man-bird do in his vision, meanwhile blowing softly into the mouthpiece.

All at once, there was the song, ghost like and beautiful beyond words, drifting all the way to the village, where the people were astounded and joyful to hear it. With the help of the wind and the woodpecker, the young man had brought them the first flute.

In the village lived an itanchan, a big chief. This itanchan had a daughter who was beautiful, but also very proud, and convinced that there was no young man good enough for her. Many had come courting, but she had sent them all away.

Now, the hunter who had made the flute decided that she was just the woman for him. Thinking of her he composed a special song, and one night, standing behind a tall tree, he played it on his siyotanka in hopes that it might have a charm to make her love him.

All at once the winchinchala heard it. She was sitting in her father's tipi eating buffalo hump meat and tongue, and feeling good. She wanted to stay by the fire in the tipi, but her feet wanted to go outside. She pulled back, but her feet pulled forward, and the feet won. Her head said, "Go slow, go slow!" but the feet said, "Faster, faster!"

She saw the young man standing in the moonlight, she heard the flute. Her head said, "Don't go to him, he's poor." Her feet said, "Go, run!" and again the feet prevailed. So they stood face to face. The girl's head told her to be silent, but the feet told her to speak, and speak she did, saying, "Koshkalaka, young man, I am yours altogether." So they lay down together, the young man and the winchinchala, under one blanket.

Later, she told them, "Koshkalaka, warrior, I like you. Let your parents send a gift to my father, the chief. No matter how small, it will be accepted. Let your father speak for you to my father. Do it soon! Do it now!" And so the two fathers quickly agreed to the wishes of their children. The proud winchinchala became the hunter's wife, and he himself became a great chief.

All the other young men had heard and seen what the flute did for the hunter. Soon they too began to whittle cedar branches into the shape of a bird's head with a long neck and an open beak. The beautiful love music traveled from tribe to tribe, and made young girls' feet go where they shouldn't. And that's how the flute was brought to the people, thanks to the cedar, the woodpecker, and this young man, who shot no elk, but knew how to listen.

(Editor's note: Wolf was a member of the Lakota tribe. He was killed in a Jeep accident July 2, 1999.)

Advance Medical Directives put healthcare decisions in your hands

Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney allow people to make important decisions regarding healthcare before they are incapacitated.

***By Capt. Robert Fellrath
Legal Assistance Division, OSJA***

With advances in medicine and technology over the last fifty years, the life span of the average person has increased significantly. With these advances have come new life-prolonging procedures that many people find unacceptable.

A few of these procedures include the use of machines to keep a person’s lungs or heart functioning when they would otherwise fail. Another procedure involves administering artificial nutrients (feeding tubes) to comatose patients.

Sometimes these procedures are appropriate and desired by the patients and their families. Sometimes these procedures are not.

When patients are conscious and capable of making decisions, they can decide what life prolonging measures they want. When a patient is unconscious or not capable of making a decision, the patient’s doctor usually decides what to do.

Most doctors and hospitals will use life-prolonging procedures regardless of what the patient’s family and loved ones might want, because their professional ethics do not allow them to permit patients to die while under their professional care.

Essentially, an unconscious patient can not decline life-prolonging procedures. Or can they?

The Legal Assistance office prepares legal documents called Advance Medical Directives that deal with just this problem.

Advance Medical Directives allow people to make their important decisions regarding health care before they ever become incapacitated and cannot make a decision. Advance Medical Directives allow people to express ahead of time

whether they want to receive life-prolonging procedures.

There are two kinds of Advance Medical Directives, Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney.

The Living Will is the most common form of Advance Medical Directive. A Living Will is a document that expresses the person’s desires as to particular medical care if they are unconscious or incapacitated.

Generally, a Living Will is directed to a doctor and only becomes effective if the person loses the ability to make or communicate medical decisions and has a terminal condition, is in an irreversible coma or a persistent vegetative state, or suffers from severe brain damage.

This document lets the person make general medical decisions when necessary. If the person with the Living Will is also a soldier, they can include in the document whether or not their family should ask the Army to retire the soldier from active duty.

There are different benefits for dying while retired versus dying while on active duty. The family can decide what is best for them and make that decision.

There can be problems with Living Wills. Living Wills are not always followed, despite the fact that the patient has clearly said what they do and do not want.

Some doctors and hospitals will refuse to follow a Living Will if they have any doubt that the Living Will isn’t specific enough or does not apply. This presents an obvious problem for people trying to make the right decisions for themselves and their families.

In most cases, however, doctors and hospitals will honor the decisions expressed in a Living Will and try to comply with those decisions.

A Health Care Power of Attorney (also known as a health

care proxy or health care representative) enables a person to appoint someone (their Health Care Attorney) to make their health care decisions for them, should they become incapacitated or unable to make their own decisions.

Many people choose their spouse, their children, or close friends as their Health Care Attorneys. The Health Care Power of Attorney is in many ways a better document than a Living Will.

Instead of only providing a set of instructions or decisions by a person who is incapacitated, the Living Will appoints a fully capable and conscious person to make important decisions. While a Living Will may sometimes be ignored, a Health Care Attorney is someone who must be consulted for important decisions.

A potential problem with a Health Care Power of Attorney is that the Health Care Attorney does not always follow the person’s wishes.

When a close relative (a wife or child, for example) is appointed, they may be too close to the person and not want to see their loved one die. It is best to choose someone who you know will follow your wishes and not be too attached and emotional.

Another problem with a Health Care Power of Attorney is that it is only effective if the person appointed as the Health Care Attorney is aware of the medical situation and available to serve.

For example, a soldier appoints his brother as his Health Care Attorney. The soldier ends up in the hospital and his family tries to contact his brother. Unfortunately, the brother is on vacation and completely unaware that the soldier is in the hospital and in poor condition. In that case, the Health

Essentially, an unconscious patient cannot decline life-prolonging procedures. Or can they?

Legal Assistance Division

See Medical, Page 8

Civilian council sponsors discounted events

CWFC release

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring following events are sponsored by the CWFC for Fort Huachuca civilian employees. If interested, contact your organizational CWFC representative or any CWFC rep included at the bottom of this email.

Movies

Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring two movies in Dec. The prices will be \$3 per ticket. Each ticket will include admission to the movie and a small coke and popcorn. The movie at Uptown theater will include a goodie bag.

On Dec. 9 at Uptown you will have your choice of seeing The Sixth Day, it is a new movie with Arnold Schwarzenegger or 102 Dalmatians. Both movies will start at 9:30 a.m.

On Dec. 16 at Cinemark you will have your choice of seeing The Grinch with Jim Carrey or What Women Want and possibly a third movie depending on the number of tickets we sell. The time will be 10:30 a.m.

Please let your CWFC rep know if you are interested in either or both movies. As always, we sell on a first come first purchase, four tickets per Civilian ID card.

Civilian Welfare Fund Council

Judy Markham, chairperson DFAS, Building 22334	533-2902	markhamj@huachuca-emh1.army.mil
April Rigg, vice chairperson DOIM, Greely Hall	533-7272	rigga@huachuca-emh1.army.mil
Colleen Figula, recorder Garrison HQ, Building 41402	533-1562	figulac@huachuca.emh1.army.mil
Lettichia Mealy, fund control MEDDAC, Health Center	533-0924	lettichia.mealy@cen.amedd.army.mil
Marie Chester MEDDAC, Health Center	533-9035	chester.marie@cen.amedd.army.mil
Margaret Curry, EPG	538-4860	Margaret.curry@epg.army.mil
Robert E. Malone, EPG	538-7433	maloner@epg.army.mil
Beth Manuel OTC, Hayes Hall	538-8808	manuelbeth@otc.army.mil
Melissa Marbut G2, Greely Hall	538-6621	Melissa.marbut@hqasc.army.mil
Sharolyn Scarborough ISEC, Building 53301	538-3075	scarboroughs@emh1.hqisec.army.mil
Suzanne Ollano-Mayer ASC, Building 61801	538-6165	suzanne.ollanos@hqasc.army.mil
Donna R. Walker 111th MI Bde., Riley Barracks	538-4538	walkerdr@huachuca-emh1.army.mil

Community Updates

Combat Lifesaver Courses

Due to recent changes, all Combat Lifesaver Courses must be taught by medical personnel. To accommodate unit requirements, one course will be held each quarter by Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center. Each course will have 20 slots.

Request for slots should be sent to Staff Sgt. Daniel Traver, METS Division, at 533-3727 or fax to 533-2704. Request should include soldiers standard name line and unit point of contact and be sent six weeks prior to start date.

Course dates available are Jan. 22-24, April 9-11 and Aug. 6-8, 2001. These courses are for new Combat Lifesavers. For recertifications, contact Traver to arrange for recertification course.

Parish coordinator needed

The available position is Protestant Parish Coordinator. The contract period is Dec. 15, 2000 through Sept. 30, 2001. No appropriated funds will be used for this contract. Contract award and execution is subject to availability of Nonappropriated Chaplain's Funds and approval of the Consolidated Chaplain's Fund Manager. Interested applicants should bring resume to Room 3, Main Post Chapel. For further information on the Nonappropriated Chaplains' Fund Contract, call Chap. (Maj.) Mike Thomas, Resource Manager, at 533-4753.

DOIM classes set

The Directorate of Information Management is sponsoring the following computer courses for the last of November and the month of December: Basic HTML, today; MS Word, Monday; Delrina FormFlow, Tuesday; MS PowerPoint, Wednesday; and Basic HTML, Dec. 8.

The month of December continues with Outlook, Dec. 11; Basic Database Structure & Design*, Dec. 12; Basic MS Access*, Dec. 13; Intermediate MS Access*, Dec. 14; and Advanced MS Access*, Dec. 15. (*These classes must be taken sequentially Dec. 12-15.)

December finishes with MSProject 2000, Dec. 18; Excel Basic+, Dec. 27; and Excel Intermediate, Dec. 28. (+This class is a prerequisite.)

These courses are free and are offered to all active duty/reserve military personnel and their spouses, civilians and contractors employed on Fort Huachuca. For more information, call the DOIM Training Center at 533-2868.

I-19 rest area closed

Both the northbound and southbound sides of the Canoa Ranch Rest Area on I-19 near Green Valley will be closed for a year beginning Friday.

The Arizona Department of Transportation will rebuild the 20-year-old rest area to make it larger. Motorists can find alternate private facilities in Green Valley.

Huachuca on Harold

Tune in to Fort Huachuca's organizations, missions and personalities by setting your dial to KTAN 1420 AM. The "Morning Harold" sets aside one half hour for an in-depth look at what's happening on post just after 7 a.m. on scheduled Fridays every month.

Upcoming programs include a look at holiday events, Dec. 1; 1st Lt. Ronna Winn, nutritionist at the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, Dec. 15; and Angela Moncur, editor of The Scout newspaper, Dec. 22.

To showcase your organization's missions, accomplishments or events on the "Morning Harold," contact Pat Dillingham at 533-1850 or dillingham@hua.army.mil.

Range closures

Saturday	T1, T1A, T2
Sunday	T1, T1A, T2
Monday	AL, AG, T1, T1A, T2
Tuesday	AL, AG, AK, T1, T1A, T2
Wednesday	AL, AG, T1, T1A, T2
Dec. 7	AL, T1, T1A, T2
Dec. 8	AL, T1, T1A, T2
Dec. 9	T1, T1A, T2
Dec. 10	T1, T1A, T2

For questions regarding the closure of ranges please call Range Control at 533-7095.

Thrift Shop open

The Thrift Shop will be open Saturday, however due to the Christmas parade the Main Gate will be closed. Remember to use the East Gate entrance.

Our hours will be 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for shopping, and 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. for consignments. For more information, call 458-4606 on Tuesday or Thursday.

DTAP briefings

The Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Office in Sierra Vista is providing Disabled Transition Assistance Program briefings for individuals interested in applying for vocational rehabilitation benefits (Chapter 31).


A representative from this office will be providing this briefing at 9-11 a.m. on Tuesday and Dec. 12 and 19 at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, Building 22420.

The ACAP Center is located adjacent to the Military Clothing Sales Store in the Old Post area. For more information, call 459-6579.

MAC luncheon Wednesday

Retired Lt. Gen. Paul Menoher, is the guest speaker at the joint meeting of the Military Affairs Committee and the Association of United States Army. His topic is military intelligence of the future in relation to Fort Huachuca.


The Military Affairs Committee luncheon is 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday at the LakeSide Activity Centre. Attendees are invited to support the Post Chapel food



Wettie sez...
BE Water Wise!

When washing the car, use a bucket for soapy water and use the hose only for rinsing. Running water in the driveway won't get the car any cleaner!

Be Water Wise and Energy Smart!
Fort Huachuca - 538-SAVE



drive. Non-perishable food or monetary donations will be accepted at the luncheon.

Cost is \$8 for the buffet lunch. For reservations, call the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce at 458-6940.

USASC ACoFS, G8 closed

The U.S. Army Signal Command Assistant Chief of Staff, G8 will be closed Dec. 7, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. for its annual holiday party. The office of the ACoFS, G8 will be minimally staffed during this time. For information, call Pat Nickell at 538-6881.

Holiday Ball Dec. 8

The Fort Huachuca Holiday Ball is set for Dec. 8 at the LakeSide Activity Centre from 6 p.m. to midnight. Dress for the event will be formal wear for civilians and the dress uniform for military (Blues or Greens with White Shirt).

The cost is \$22 per person. Tickets are available from unit representatives. The choice of menu is Roasted Prime Rib of Beef, Chicken Cordon Bleu, or Chef Randy's Veggie Platter.

For information about the Holiday Ball, call Master Sgt. Kelly J. Hunter at 533-2769.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help man the Giving Tree located in the Post Exchange lobby, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily through Dec. 8. Volunteers are also needed to man the trees at the chapels before and after church services, and play Santa 11 a.m.-1 p.m. If

you can spare a few hours throughout this six-week period, call Paula at 458-7664 to sign up.

For more information, call Jo at 533-4748 or 533-5559, or Paula at 458-7664.

OSJA closed Dec. 8

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closing for its holiday activities on Dec. 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For emergency legal services please contact the PMO Desk Sergeant who will then contact the On-Call Duty JAG Officer.

For information, call Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dennis Tyree, OSJA, at 533-3080.

Environmental review process

Gretchen Kent, NEPA coordinator, will present a brief overview of the environmental review process 8:30-9:30 a.m. Dec. 12 in Room 1215 Greeley Hall (Command Conference Center Auditorium).

"Reduce Environmental Challenges in Your Mission Accomplishment" will address the environmental compliance requirements that are pre-decisional by law, and of the sources of help from the U.S. Army Garrison, so that mission accomplishment will not be hindered by compliance requirements.

Non-compliance can have personal and unit liabilities including criminal and monetary penalties.

Commanders; senior noncommissioned officers, officers and civilians in operations planning and force

See Updates, Page 10

School News

Fort schools continue favorite holiday traditions

Fort Huachuca Accommodation Schools release

Myer Elementary School

Magellan Running Club announced the top fourth grade girl was Maria Bowman, from Jeanne Powell's room, with 16 miles. Top fourth grade boy was Shaun Roberts, from Jan Camps' room, with 15 1/2 miles. The top fourth grade class was Jan Bowie's room, with 135 miles.

Top fifth grade girls were Esther Jin, from Val Quarto's room, and Amanda Hupp and Aubrey Jones, from Dede Covert's room, with 13 1/4 miles. The top fifth grade boy was Ryan Copeland, from Regina Chesleigh's room, with 16 miles. Top fifth grade class was Regina Chesleigh's room, with 102 3/4 miles. Myer students ran a total of 922 miles last week, for a grand total of 9,972 miles for the year.

Betty Davis' kindergarten classes were getting ready for their Thanksgiving feast last Wednesday. For an extra treat to be thankful for, the classes made horns of plenty out of Kix cereal, Bugle corn snacks, crackers and peanut butter.

Cora Pagalilauan's kindergarten classes have been busy throughout the month of November learning to read and extend patterns. In reading, they are learning the sound of the letter "S." When the children had their Indian Thanksgiving feast Wednesday, they got to wear the Indian and pilgrim costumes they made.

Joy Mims' kindergarten classes continued their unit of "stories from long ago" after they had their Thanksgiving feast. They have read "The Three Little Pigs" and "Little Red Riding Hood."

In December, they will hear "The Gingerbread Boy." They will listen to different versions and integrate social studies, science, math, art, and phonics into their theme. The letters for December will be "F," "X," and "B." They will be having an in-class Christmas program with Allison Spencer's kindergarten class on Dec. 19. Their holiday party and card exchange will be Dec. 22.

To celebrate Thanksgiving, **the preschool classes of Libby Strome and Laura Ornelas** made pilgrim and Native American vests and hats. The children also made butter to go along with their Thanksgiving feast on Nov. 22. They plan on exploring their senses during the last week of November.

Allison Spencer's kindergarten classes celebrated Thanksgiving by sharing thoughts (using complete sen-

tences) on what they were thankful for. They shared a mini-feast of applesauce and muffins they made in class as well as treats sent in from their homes. They made "stuffed turkeys," patterned Indian headbands and vests, and pilgrim hats.

They dressed as Indians and pilgrims and allowed the turkeys to be guests at their feast. They learned the "Legend of the Suncaller" and created their own storyteller figures so they could take them home and share the legend with their loved ones over the holidays. They have completed in-depth study of "M," "O," "D," and "A." Next, they will study "C," "T," "G," "P," and "W."

Myer School, along with Dan Howdeshell, would like to thank the Officers' and Civilians' Spouses Club and the NCO Enlisted Wives Club for donating funds to purchase music stands for the band students.

Johnston Elementary School

Donna Beck's first grade students are continuing the quilt-making tradition this year. Each year this first grade class makes a "quilt." They draw picture with cloth crayons which are then put on a large white piece of material that is hand stitched to batting by the students.

The finished quilt is then donated to the "Women's Crisis Center" in Sierra Vista. There will be a notice going home telling the exact days for "quilting" and when we'll need the extra help.

There was also be a "Stone Soup" Thanksgiving dinner party in the classroom. On top of all this fun, Donna's first graders also have time to have a weekly spelling test, nightly sentence writing, daily reading, and daily math sense.

Frank Bell's third grade students are reading Rainbow Gila Monsters Meet You at The Airport. The lessons will reflect skills in synonyms, and cause and effect. Taping student readings will continue this week. Emailing parents has helped so much with student assignments that instead of daily emails they will be sent out Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting this week.

Henry Bos's third graders had a wonderful time at the Buffalo Corral. Every student experienced horseback riding first hand and had a tour of the tack room. Students had a quick lesson on turning and stopping their mounts as well as a lesson on what each piece of rigging was for and how it worked.

Evelyn Harris's multi-age class keep their Parent Link updated with weekly announcements. The number

is 515-0293. Students continue their reading program both at school and at home. One day parents read to their child and another the child reads to the parents. If you are unsure of what is expected call Parent Link or ask your child for the class notice.

Yo Collins and Teresa Miranda's Writing to Read classes are writing about "If I were President..." The students are coming up with some very interesting ideas which we will share with you as soon as they are done.

Every classroom door was decorated in honor of **National Children's Book week Nov. 13 - 17**. Each door was decorated to depict a favorite book cover. Janice Walter, librarian, will be judging the doors. The winner will receive a prize and a special storytelling by Walter.

Timothy Pilley was the Grand Prize winner of our Red Ribbon essay contest "How I Can Make a Difference." His prize was a ride in a hot air balloon but unfortunately we were disappointed when the weather didn't allow the balloon to go up. Our other essay winners were Melissa Berry, Karlee Moxley, Emilee Douglas, Chris Johnston, Cody Akers, Sarah Hansen, and Joseph McGeachy. They received recognition and prizes at our Spirit Day assembly.

Red Ribbon Week was full of activities for the students. The week started off with "Team Up Against Drugs" day where we wore our favorite team clothing. Then we had "Sock It To Drugs" day where the students and staff wore their crazy or mismatched socks.

Wednesday we "Put a Cap on Drugs" by wearing our hats to school. Then on Thursday we wore our shirts backwards as we "Turned our Back on Drugs".

During the week we built a giant wall against drugs in our hallway with bricks signed by each student and staff member. Friday we dressed in red as the week came to an end when we attended our Spirit Day assembly. We had the Kids on the Block puppet show that taught us ways to keep ourselves safe.

Fireman Marc Davis announced the winners of the **Fire Prevention Week poster contest**. Brandi Brown took First Place, Darrin Darby took Second Place, and Alejandro Benvenuti took Third Place.

Each student won a \$50 saving bond. The school also announced the winners of our "I will be Drug Free" poster contest. The winners from each classroom were Shelby Reynolds, Jordan Cobb, Michaela Wilke, Chris

See School, Page 8

Tombstone School hosts parenting classes

Tombstone School District release

Tombstone School District has received funding to offer parenting classes for the 2000-2001 school year.

The free classes will be offered four times during the course of the year. The classes are limited to the first 10 who sign up for each class offering. Baby-sitting services will be provided, and snacks and beverages will be served.

The first class, "The Incredible Years," is designed for mothers and fathers of infants through eight-year-olds, pregnant teens and the fathers, and any other caretakers of infants through eight-year-olds.

The topics to be covered are: how to play with your child; praise and rewards; effective limit setting and dealing with

non-compliance; and handling misbehavior, time out and preventive approaches.

This class will be offered Tuesday and Dec. 12 and 19 from 6 to 9 p.m.

The second class is titled "Common Sense Parenting" and is designed as a practical approach to help parents be more positive with their children and to use more effective discipline.

This class is intended for parents with children in the three- to 16-year-old age group. This class will be offered Wednesday, and Dec. 13 and 20 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Both classes will be held at Huachuca City Elementary School in Huachuca City.

For more information, call Bill Wright at Walter J. Meyer School in Tombstone, at 457-3371.

DeCA offers scholarships for military children

DeCA release

"Is a college education on your commissary shopping list?"

Here's some "Food for Thought." Your commissary is participating in a new program that can help send your child to college.

It's the "Scholarships for Military Children Program" brought to you by the Defense Commissary Agency, Fisher House and proud sponsors.

Your college-bound son or daughter could be eligible to receive a scholarship of \$1,5000 (fifteen hundred dollars) or more. Applications may be picked up at the Fort Huachuca Commissary customer service representative or visit www.commissaires.com on the Internet to find out more about this program.

And remember, the "Scholarships for Military Children" application period ends Feb. 15.

And from our commissary family at Fort Huachuca to yours — have a happy holiday season and a great New Year.



Military retirees eligible for health care for life

RAO release

Recent legislation has greatly enhanced the government’s promise of lifetime medical care for military retirees.

On Oct. 30, President Bill Clinton signed the FY2001 National Defense Authorization Act into law.

The Act includes provisions authorizing TRICARE-for-life and pharmacy coverage for Medicare-eligible, and allocating part of the government surplus to establish a trust fund that makes this coverage a mandatory entitlement that will not have to compete for funding with the rest of the Defense budget.

TRICARE for Life will start on Oct. 1, 2001. It is for military retirees, their spouses, and surviving spouses who qualify for Medicare Part B.

To participate, you must have Medicare Part B and your DEERS information must be up to date.

If you are not currently enrolled in Medi-

“All the retiree will need to qualify for TRICARE for Life is his or her Medicare Part B card and his or her Military identification card.”

care Part B, you may enroll in the program at your nearest SSA office during the General Enrollment Period (January 1- March 31) to become eligible for Part B benefits on July 1, 2001. The cost of Part B may go up 10 percent for each 12-month period that you could have had Part B but did not take it.

The first thing the Department of Defense is planning to have on line is TRICARE Standard for everyone. That is a fee for service program.

Medicare Part B will be the first payer and TRICARE Standard will pick up the rest. The beneficiary must stay in Medicare Part B and will have the yearly Medicare deductible. There will be no additional TRICARE co-pays, fees or deductibles.

The questions of TRICARE Prime and the use of the Military Treatment Facilities will be handled later. At this time the plan does not require the beneficiary to actually enroll in TRICARE for Life.

All the retiree will need to qualify for TRICARE for Life is his or her Medicare Part B card and his or her Military I.D. Medicare is the primary payer under the TRICARE-for-life and the only criterion is that a provider accepts Medicare patients.

Beneficiaries who are eligible for Medicare, but enter into “private contracts” with providers who do not see Medicare patients or participate in the Medicare program do so at their own expense.

Since none of the regulations have been written yet there may be some changes in the details.

New rules included in the law are

- Reduction of the catastrophic cap on out-of-pocket expenses for retired TRICARE Standard users from \$7,500 to \$3,000 per year.
- Elimination of copayments for active duty family members enrolled in TRICARE Prime, and provides Prime-level benefits to families assigned to areas where Prime is not available.
- Prohibits imposing requirements for TRICARE beneficiaries to obtain pre-approval or non-availability statements except under specific conditions related to funding or readiness.

- Travel expense reimbursement for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries referred to a provider more than 100 miles from the primary provider’s location.

The other new health care program for retirees was contained in FY 2001 NDAA. It is a pharmacy benefit for retirees over 65, their spouses and surviving spouses. This program begins April 1, 2001. A beneficiary can use the Mail Order Pharmacy and receive up to a 90-day prescription for \$8. A dditionally, there is a Network Pharmacy Benefit that has a 20 percent co-pay per prescription (that is the beneficiary pays 20 percent and TRICARE pays 80 percent).

Finally, there is an Out of Network Pharmacy Benefit with a 25 percent co-pay and a \$150 yearly deductible.

Any beneficiary who turns 65 after March 31, 2001 must have Medicare Part B to participate in this program. If a beneficiary turned 65 before that date they will not need Medicare Part B.

Unfortunately the new coverage does not extend to retirees residing overseas.

Initial inputs indicated it was the intent of Congress to include them but the final language of the bill did not authorize this. Overseas coverage will require new legislation.

School from Page 7

Bosse, Melissa HGraves, Sarah Hansen, Nathan Ucab, Wayne Sanders, Katie Wagener, Rachel Clemmer, Brandi Brown, Karlee Moxley, Jasmine Monette, Joseph Guerrero, Kimberely Wilson, Kacie Dieter, Marissa Holcomb, Jared Modlin.

The Second Annual Johnston School Craft Bazaar was held on Nov. 4. It was an overwhelming success with over 50 vendors displaying their unique crafts ranging from vintage rag dolls, pinatas and snakeskin wallets and belts to wood crafts and baskets made from fabric and reed.

Proceeds to the students of Col. Johnston came in around \$1000. The school is very appreciative of the support the community has shown these past two years and look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Georgia Bernheim’s second graders are studying the holidays through different books and related activities: The Night Tree, The Wild Christmas Reindeer, The Polar Express, and The Jolly Christmas Postman. Book and gift exchange will take place Dec. 22. More details are in the class newsletter.

Students in Brittany Snidar’s third grade class are gearing up to write about their favorite animals. Research will be done in the computer lab before compiling all the information. There is much information that can be put into a report of this nature. Part of the student’s assignment will be decide what is important to them and what isn’t.

Frank Bell’s third grade class is reading the Legend of the Indian Paintbrush. They are taught about antonyms, elements

of fiction, and how to use reference materials. Each of the students is reading to the class while being filmed. The endangered species unit will be continued in science.

Mindy Lee thanked everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to meet with her during progress reporting time. Her first grade class has completed a field trip to study Native American Lifestyles and finished its unit on insects. In math they are working on solving horizontal number sentences and writing the missing numbers in a series.

Volunteers make a huge difference in making our school a great place for our children. In August 24 volunteers donated over 182 hours. For September, 38 volunteers put in over 392 hours topped by 39 volunteers giving 487 hours of their time

in October.

Our volunteers of the month: Candice Dunstan for September and Jacqueline Fotheringham for October.

The school is dependent on our volunteers for field trips, classroom activities, individual assistance, and moral support.

Speaking of volunteers. The first grade teachers hosted a pancake breakfast for every first grade student in the school in honor of literacy.

Teachers and volunteers cooked pancakes first thing Friday morning. To help celebrate literacy and to kick off “Celebrity Read” program Maj. Gen. John D. Thomas Jr. and Interim Superintendent Dave Hrach donated an hour out of their busy schedule to read to the first grade students.

What did they read — pancake books of course.

Library from Page 2

issues of *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*?

There are several sources. The library has a card index of authors, article titles, and subjects covering the period 1975 to 1982. This index is available from the circulation desk.

Starting in 1990, the magazine is indexed in *Air University Library Index to Military Periodicals*.” The library has this resource in both book form and on CD-ROM. Full text coverage is offered from 1998 to the present by the on-line data-

base ProQuest, also available in the library.

The CD-ROM and on-line full text formats allow for limiting a search to articles found in a specific periodical title, such as *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*.

The Fort Huachuca Library is located at the corner of Smith and Arizona streets. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, and 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Telephone number is 533-3041.

Medical from Page 5

Care Power of Attorney is completely ineffective because there is no one available to exercise that power.

The best option for most people is to make both a Living Will and a Health Care Power of Attorney. That way, if the Health Care Attorney is unavailable, the person’s decisions about important medical care are still available.

The Fort Huachuca Legal Assistance Office prepares Living Wills and Health Care Powers of Attorney for all clients eligible for legal assistance under Army regulations.

(Editor’s note: The preceding article is a synopsis of the most common and relevant questions and concerns about Advance Medical Directives. This overview is intended to provide general information, and is not intended to be relied upon as a substitute for legal or financial advice. As always, consult with an attorney for advice on your particular circumstances. Active duty soldiers and their dependents can make appointments with an attorney by calling Fort Huachuca’s Legal Assistance Office at 533-2009. Legal advice cannot be given over the phone.)

Personnel actions made easier with modern computer system

By Barbara K. Filbert
CPOCMA PAO

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — Improving services to federal employees continues to be a top priority for the Department of Army. Since regionalization began in 1994, the Army has made drastic changes in the way it performs its duties. The principal vehicle of these changes is a more sophisticated, enhanced and complex computer network.

Today, human resource professionals throughout the Defense Department will play an important role as they start deploying a new automated data system, better known as the "Modern System," at its personnel centers throughout the world.

The modern Defense Civilian Personnel Defense System, a defense-wide initiative, will launch an automated human-resources system that will link all military branches under the same personnel system. Defense officials said the database is designed to support about 800,000 employee records.

The Modern System replaces all Department of Defense personnel information management systems in use today with one information system to manage civilian human resources. It will provide employee and organizational data needed to manage the diverse workforce throughout the Defense Department. The system is designed to streamline personnel paperwork and services, and will support appropriated and non-appropriated fund, and local national civilian personnel operations.

Because of the Army's reorganization, infrastructure changes, and centralizing personnel functions in the last decade, the human resources workforce has reduced its staffs by 41 percent. Their job of providing pay and benefits services is evolving into a more strategic role, as personnel specialists focus on recruiting a skilled workforce for the future.

"The modern DCPDS will support regionalized personnel services by allowing direct access to up-to-date information," said Denise Copeland, a personnel management specialist at the Civilian Personnel Operations

Center Management Agency, headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

"One of the advantages of the new system is that everyone involved in the civilian personnel process (managers, supervisors, resource managers and human-resource personnel) can access the system, and data will flow quickly and efficiently to organizations and geographic locations," she said.

The Civilian Personnel Operations Centers' staffs will be the most frequent users, as they are the ones that process personnel actions, which will be recorded electronically. This will allow managers and human-resources officers to track personnel activities from their desktop computers. And managers will be able to track the status of personnel actions from their desktops and retrieve personnel information regarding their employees.

The Southwest Region, based at Fort Riley, Kan., will begin using the new system Oct. 13; followed by North Central Region at Rock Island, Ill. on Nov. 24. Army personnel officials hope to deploy their other regions during 2001.

The Army, along with the Navy and Air Force, continue to test the system.

The Army's Pacific Region, headquartered at Fort Richardson, Alaska, was the Army's test site, and has been operating successfully.

Copeland said the Oracle-based system, which DoD developed in partnership with Oracle Human Resources, will capitalize on new technology to deliver personnel services.

"Our biggest challenges have been the time and training to accomplish the CPOC's deployment tasks, keeping up with the volumes of information regarding the system, and overcoming the overall fear of change from some of our customers," said Dan Clawson, director of the Southwest CPOC.

"We met these challenges by designating a project officer (for the modern system), establishing a deployment committee and training the customers."

Clawson said that during the past several months he

has briefed the military commanders throughout his region on the benefits and advantages of the modern system.

"We keep our customers informed through newsletters and e-mail messages," he said. "Our trainers have done a remarkable job in instructing and demonstrating how the system works and how user-friendly it is. As with any new system, there are changes, and we plan to offer refresher training sessions to our customers."

Greg Wert, of CPOCMA's Training Management Division, said the system has user-friendly screens. "The modern system is based on a commercial, off-the-shelf product that uses a graphical Windows environment with drop-down menus, point-and-click maneuvering, and cut-copy-paste capability," he said. "Users who have more than one 'role', such as a budget officer who also supervises civilian employees, will appreciate the ease of switching between these roles without having to exit from the system."

The modern system is moving toward greater stan

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ABC-C Helpdesk available

CPOC release

The Army Benefits Center-Civilian has a Helpdesk at commercial (785) 239-2000 or DSN 856-2000.

If you have any trouble logging into the Interactive Voice Response System or the Employee Benefits Information System, please contact the ABC-C Helpdesk.

If you are a new employee who may not be in the automated system yet, continue to contact the CPAC.

If you use the IVRS system, please listen carefully for the prompts that guide you through the system.

If you use the EBIS website and are having trouble registering in the initial Point of Entry site, you may find helpful instructions if you scroll down the screen.

VA home loan guarantee program extended for reservists, guardsmen

By Sgt. Chris Dunphy
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — National Guardsmen and reservists now have until Sept. 30, 2007, to apply for the Department of Veterans Affairs home loan guarantee.

"Our objective, though, is to make this a permanent option for reservists," said Mike Cline, executive director for the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States.

Started in 1992, the VA loan guarantee program was originally intended to expire in 1999. Since then, it has received two extensions: One to 2003, and just recently to 2007. Though welcomed, Cline said the extension actually defeats the original purpose of the guarantee.

"The VA loan guarantee program was originally intended as a recruiting tool," he said. The problem with only extending the program is that a guardsman or reservist would still have to complete six years of service to receive the benefit.

Therefore, only persons enlisting within

the next two years would benefit.

Cline said there's a great push — not only in his organization but in VA as well — to permanently extend the program for reservists.

"VA wants to see the Guard and Reserve stay in the program," he said. "One reason is that we pay 0.75 percent more on the funding fee (a VA-required charge for home purchases) for first-time home purchases than our active-duty counterparts."

Cline said this increase in revenue benefits the entire home loan program.

"In addition, the default rate is two-thirds lower for reservists as compared to the active-duty soldier," he said.

Cline said he believes this is because homebuyers in the reserves tend to be older and more stabilized within a community.

According to Bob Gardner, national veterans field representative for the Veterans of Foreign Wars office in Washington, VA guarantees loans for refinancing and purchasing homes — including condominiums and manufactured homes.

"VA guarantees part of the total loan permitting the purchaser to obtain a mortgage with a competitive rate," he said.

Another benefit that VA offers the purchaser is the option of not making a down payment on the home, according to Chuck Owen, senior real estate loan officer for Armed Forces Bank on Fort Leavenworth.

Owen said the only required investment is what VA calls the "funding fee." He said this is a one-time cost that the veteran does not have to pay up front.

"You can either pay the fee at once or finance it into the loan amount," he said.

Owen said the fee varies from 2.75 percent of the loan amount for a first-time purchase to 0.5 percent of the loan when the owner refinances.

Gardner said mortgage companies also benefit due to the loan's protection factor.

"With a VA guarantee, the company is protected against loss up to the amount of the guarantee if the borrower fails to repay the loan," he said.

According to Gardner, to be eligible for a

VA loan a guardsman or reservist must have completed six years of service, have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions, or currently serving.

Soldiers activated for the Persian Gulf War for at least 90 days and soldiers who have been medically discharged for a service-connected disability are also eligible, he said.

Gardner said the process for applying for a VA-guaranteed loan is relatively simple. First the veteran submits VA form 26-1880, or "Request for Determination of Eligibility and Available Loan Guarantee Entitlement," to a local VA office. Along with this form the veteran will need to submit his or her discharge form, or a statement of service if still serving.

Gardner said VA Form 26-1880 can be obtained from VA or most mortgage companies. On this form, the veteran lists all periods of military service. VA verifies the periods listed and then issues to the veteran a certificate of eligibility that officially confirms his eligibility status. The veteran is then able to approach a mortgage company to begin the process for qualifying to buy a home.

New fighting force marching right on schedule

By Master Sgt. Jon Connor
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The plan to develop and field the future Army remains on schedule, said the chief overseer of the new fighting force at a media update briefing at the Pentagon.

Maj. Gen. James Dubik, Training and Doctrine Command’s deputy commanding general for Transformation, told reporters that “everything has started on time and on schedule” in developing the Objective Force.

Dubik, who has headed up organizing and training the Initial Brigade Combat Teams since last October, will soon depart to become the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

“Transformation” as it is called, is the process of developing a new fighting infrastructure that is partly based on self-sufficient brigade-size units. The IBCTs will be “changing all the items associated with combat power,” he said. IBCTs are designed to deploy quickly, be agile, very lethal, and be sustainable to meet the missions of today’s unique post-Cold War Army, Dubik said.

Because Army doctrine developed decades ago required a major overseas airport and seaport to receive incoming troops and equipment, the need to develop a new strategy was evident, Dubik said referring the prolonged Gulf War buildup of forces in Saudi Arabia.

“Do you think the next one (conflict) is going to be that way?” Dubik rhetorically asked. “The answer is no.”

The new doctrine could employ “vertical envelopment” which means large units would have the capability

to be dropped behind enemy lines to quickly move out, Dubik said.

“We’re changing the governing ideas of our Army,” he said. Dubik cited immediate changes at locations like Fort Lewis, Wash., where the ICBTs are being developed and trained; Fort Benning, Ga., where being lieutenants are educated on the new doctrine; and, Fort Lee, Va., where radically different approaches on logistics support are underway.

Also tied in with transformation is the way leaders communicate to each other and their subordinates.

“The senior gets the subordinates together to collaborate,” Dubik said. During training, leaders at different levels work a problem and then come together to discuss, he said.

“It gives the company depth in its leader-oriented decision-making process. It helps them learn to think like their seniors,” Dubik said.

“More and more is asked of junior leaders,” Dubik said, citing such diverse missions in Panama, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo.

The IBCT transformation is a stair-step process, the general said, which continues with the delivery of several hundred Interim Armored Vehicles to replace the unit’s former vehicles in March 2001. While the future of today’s tanks and fighting vehicles remains to be seen, the interim armored vehicles and their successors are for certain.

“They’re not tanks. They’re not designed to be tanks,” Dubik explained. “They’re designed to go to places where

tanks can’t go.

“You don’t want to be a force fighting this organization,” Dubik said. “This force has Javelins in every platoon,” he said referring to the advanced anti-tank weapons system.

And, Dubik said, the Army is merging the infantryman military occupational specialties 11B and 11M.

Dubik acknowledged that the new Army emerging is not one without growing pains. One goal that is nearly completed is manning the Army’s 10 divisions at 100 percent. This consequently produced personnel problems in the organizational stability of losing units.

As of Sept. 30, only two division were less than 100 percent strength, Personnel Command reported.

“We need organizational stability,” Dubik said, adding that the deputy chief of staff of Personnel must redefine what organizational stability will mean.

“The governing ideas of our Army are coming into question,” he said. But by incorporating the new doctrine in TRADOC-run schools, soldiers will embrace the doctrine as the norm.

“They’re adapting very well. Very well,” he said. For many captains and sergeants on down, the post-Cold War is all they’ve known, Dubik said.

He added that while it’s natural for some to be nervous while being at the forefront, the feeling of excitement today’s young soldiers are experiencing cannot be denied.

“There’s high excitement in this stuff,” he said. “People like moving out and being first.”

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ment; all military civilian action officers; contractors responsible for test conduct or management are strongly encouraged to attend.

OCSC December luncheon

The Fort Huachuca Officers’ and Civilians’ Spouses’ Club will host its December luncheon at the LakeSide Activity Centre 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Dec. 13.

There will be an Ornament Auction. The “We Care” project for December will be the Turn Around Point, bring new or used housewares (small appliances, dishes, etc.). For reservations, call, 458-7664 by Dec. 8.

Ed Services closed

The Directorate of Education Services will hold its holiday party noon-2 p.m. on Dec. 13. The Army Education Center will be closed during that time; Army Career

Alumni Program, Quality Training Center and the Library will have reduced services. At 2 p.m., full services will resume in all locations. For information, call Paula Granger at 533-2255 or 533-3010.

ASMC monthly meeting

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will holds its monthly meeting at 11:30 a.m., Dec. 13 at La Hacienda Community Club. Featured speaker will be Ginger Nolan from Kartchner Caverns.

The lunch menu will be an Italian buffet. To make reservations and purchase tickets, ASMC members and guests should contact organizational representatives or buy them at the door. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Linda Guintier at 456-2961.

Holiday closures

The DIS will be closed 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. on Dec. 14. For emergencies, call 533-2623.

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will be closed 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Dec. 14 for the employees’ annual holiday party.

The Directorate of Resource Management will be closed 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Dec. 14 for the annual holiday party.

The Public Affairs Office will be closed from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 15 for the PAO annual holiday party.

Federal jobs workshop

The Fort Huachuca Army Career and Alumni Program is offering a monthly Federal Jobs Workshop on Dec. 15.

The workshop covers how to find out about federal job vacancies, how to apply, what forms to use, how selections are made,

federal pay scales, veterans preference, and the types of civil service appointments.

The Resumix scannable resume used to apply for jobs at Fort Huachuca will be explained in detail.

Workshops are held in the ACAP Center, Building 22420 (next to the Military Clothing Sales) in the Old Post area. No reservation is necessary.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, call Thom Hapgood at 533-7314.

Last Scout of year

The Fort Huachuca Scout will print its last newspaper for the year 2000 on Dec. 21. There will be no papers printed on Dec. 28 or Jan. 4, 2001. Normal printing will resume on Jan. 11, 2001. The deadline for items to go into the Dec. 21 issue is noon, Dec. 15. The deadline for the Jan. 11, 2001 issue is noon, Jan. 5, 2001.

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dardization in the way we process personnel actions, Wert said, and added that it is getting us away from reliance on locally-developed systems. He said that customers and managers who move from one organization to another should see a marked similarity in the operation of the civilian personnel system between organizations in the Army.

“Organizational and employee data can be displayed in a variety of different formats that can be modified, filtered, sorted and exported for use in other applications such as an Excel spreadsheet.”

Training is a key element regarding the system’s success. CPOCMA established a charter team to conduct the training on the new system, using a “train-the-trainer”

approach. The members served as the key trainers for the regional operations centers, and developed job aids and training modules for use in training the regional human-resource personnel.

“We have a great deal of training material available for all the audiences using the system - personnel specialists, training coordinators, administrative and resource management staff, managers and supervisors,” Wert said. “We [CPOCMA] have coordinated an extensive training effort, which includes workshops for trainers from the Major Army Commands and CPOCs, and multiple training sessions at each region as they prepare to deploy.”

During the past six years, the Army has led the way for the other services in regionalizing and modernizing

civilian personnel operations, and is now 100 percent regionalized. Civilian personnel operations across DoD continue to regionalize and modernize to provide more cost-effective services and support services with fewer personnel specialists.

Army officials said more improvements are needed and will come with everyone’s support. The Army’s goal is to have a personnel system that has more integrated processes, and is responsive to the customers’ needs.

For more information and current up-to-date information on the modern system, see the website, <http://cpol.army.mil>, under “Modernization.” Current information on policy and procedural changes also is posted on the website.

DFAS to mail Army W-2s by mid-January

Army News Service

DFAS-INDIANAPOLIS — The Defense Finance and Accounting Service plans to mail all calendar year 2000 Army W-2s by mid-month January 2001.

Some year-end adjustments will not be included in the original W-2 but will be included in a corrected W-2 (Form W-2C).

If Fort Huachuca soldiers have reason to believe individual W-2 forms do not include all pertinent data and they have not received W-2C forms, they should contact their Personnel and Administration Cen-

ter here.

Separated soldiers can call Military Pay customer service, toll-free, at (888) PAY ARMY or commercial (317) 510-2800.

Before filing federal or state tax returns, officials recommend soldiers have in their possession all W-2 (Wage and Tax Statement) and W-2C forms.

In addition to the W-2 for wages, some current and former soldiers will also receive an additional W-2 if they:

- Had a do-it-yourself (DITY) move
- Participated in the Student Loan Repayment Plan*

- Filed a Public Law 220 Claim*
- Filed an Army Board of Correction Claim*

* Any of these three conditions will be combined into one W-2.

These non-wage items are not reflected on soldiers' final 2000 Leave and Earnings Statement, officials said. Also, adjustments effected by Combat Zone Tax Exclusion entitlements may also not appear on the final LES. Soldiers should not use their final LES to file taxes.

This year's Army National Guard W-2s and Student Loan Repayment Plan W-

2s will be sent to the U.S. Property and Fiscal Offices for distribution. Army Reserve personnel will continue to receive W-2s mailed to their address of record as they did last year.

For assistance with Army pay or LES problems, soldiers should first contact their Personnel and Administration Center before going to the local finance office.

If that doesn't work, they can call the DFAS-Indianapolis Military Pay customer service hotline at (888) PAY ARMY, DSN 699-2800, or commercial (317) 510-2800.

AARP Tax-Aide seeks volunteers to help prepare tax returns

AARP release

SIERRA VISTA, Ariz. — AARP Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service, is seeking volunteers of all ages who want to learn tax law and help prepare tax returns for middle and low income taxpayers.

Each year, from February 1 through April 15, AARP Tax-Aide volunteers prepare tax returns at over 10,000 sites nationwide and on-line at www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Last year in Arizona, 850 Tax-Aide volunteers helped more than 44,000 taxpayers at over 140 sites across the state.

"The AARP Tax-Aide program is a wonderful resource for people who need help preparing their taxes," said Hal Kesler, Arizona state coordinator for AARP Tax-Aide.

"Being an AARP Tax-Aide volunteer is extremely rewarding. You get to help others and yourself make tax time less stressful."

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers receive free tax training from the Internal Revenue Service. Volunteers are asked to give a minimum commitment of 40 hours over a 10-week season.

Individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels are encouraged to apply. American Association of Retired Persons membership is not required to be an AARP Tax-Aide volunteer. Expense reimbursement is provided for program-related, out-of-pocket expenses.

For more information on how to join the AARP Tax-Aide team, call 1-800-AARP-NOW.

AARP Tax-Aide is administered through the AARP Foundation in cooperation with the Internal Revenue

Service.

The AARP Foundation is an affiliated, 501(c)(3) non-partisan charitable organization established in 1961. It administers publicly and privately funded programs, such as AARP Tax-Aide and the AARP Senior Community Service Employment Program.

The foundation also carries out the Washington, D.C.-based advocacy programs funded through Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Inc. These programs also receive support from AARP.